



Church of the
SAVIOUR
UNITED METHODISTS
www.cos-umc.org

8005 Pfeiffer Rd.
Montgomery, OH 45242
513.791.3142
www.cos-umc.org

September 20, 2026 | 11:00 | Traditional Worship

ENTER INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

WELCOME

Assisted listening devices are available in the sound booth.

PRELUDE

Covenant Ringers

Pathways

Isaac Wan

† INTROIT AND CALL TO WORSHIP

† Indicates the congregation should stand.

Choir

I was glad when they said to me: "Let us go to the house of God!"

L: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us new birth into a living hope.

P: We are born anew through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead!

L: He has promised us an inheritance that is pure, unchanging, and kept safely in heaven for us.

P: Even when we face trials and testing, God protects us by His power through faith.

L: Though we have not seen Him, we love Him. Even now, we believe in Him and rejoice with glorious joy.

P: Let us worship God together, for we receive the salvation of our souls!

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 368

My Hope Is Built

THE SOLID ROCK

† PRAYER

Gracious God, who has always promised to be with us: through our worship, create in us the depth of faith and hope that does not depend on proof, that we may offer Your love and hope to others who feel as though they dwell in deep darkness, for it is in the name of the Risen Christ that we pray. Amen

† PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Welcome each other. Welcome the stranger. Welcome all who come. As Christ welcomes everyone, let us open our hearts and homes and lives. Let us be Christ to everyone we meet. Now greet one another as a sign of God's peace.

L: The peace of Christ is here among us.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Covenant Choir

It is Good to Give Thanks

Music by Allen Pote

Sing to God, Alleluia, Alleluia! Sing praises unto the Lord. Rejoice and sing, and let the praises ring. Alleluia. Sing a joyful song. Alleluia. It is a good thing to give thanks to God, and bless His holy name. For the tender mercy of our loving God will forever be the same. O rejoice in the Lord all you people, and again, I say rejoice. Give thanks and sing, let the praises ring, Alleluia to God our King. I will declare your love in the morning and your faithfulness by night. With melodies of praise I will sing to be pleasing in your sight. For by your wonderful works, you have filled my life with joy, I will sing and give praise for as long as I live. Alleluia, praise the Lord.

LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

CALL TO THE WORD

Hope is an interesting word. For many, hope is only wishful thinking. When there is a lack or absence of hope, we are presented with a grim reminder of what hopelessness can do to us. When we lose hope, we essentially lose the will to love, grow, and persevere. Times of trial, stress, and temptation eventually weigh us down and drain our zeal for life. Peter's hearers were facing something similar but on a much grander scale. The threats and persecution they were experiencing had the potential to derail their faith. In our scripture today, Peter shows them how to put hope into action.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

1 Peter 1:3–9

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

A Tale of Two Churches

Pastor Markus Wegenast

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN OF RESPONSE

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

To the tune GIFT OF LOVE

**The church of Christ, in every age beset by change but
Spirit led, must claim and test its heritage and keep on
rising from the dead.**

**Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs
to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's
humanity.**

**We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our
Lord, to care for all, without reserve, and spread his
liberating word.**

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

OFFERTORY

Be Thou My Vision

Arr. Edward Broughton

† DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord, we offer to You this day, a token of our lives and our substance. Take our lives and these gifts and cause them to work in this world which You have loaned us, to build hope, cause healing, and begin reconciliation within all people. May our witness draw people closer to You. We ask this in the name of Christ Who taught us to pray:

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

GO FORTH WITH GOD'S BLESSING

† RECESSIONAL HYMN 117

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

Jubilation on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Arr. Joe Galyon

IN WORSHIP TODAY

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Sam and Susan Varghese to honor Sam's mother, Mrs. Mary Samuel, who will celebrate her 93rd birthday this month.

A rosebud is placed on the altar to celebrate the birth of Keira Nina Daniele, born on September 3, 2026 to Christine and Kevin Daniele. Grandparents are Evanne and Jim Volz. Aunt is Stephanie Volz.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Markus Wegenast, *Senior Pastor*

Tommy Schmidt, *Acolyte*

Natalie Woeste, Tom Burdin, *Lay Readers*

Joe Galyon, *Director of Worship and Arts*

Covenant Ringers, Covenant Choir, and Moyue Zhou (piano),
Musicians

David Eberhardt, *Director of Contemporary Worship*

TELL US YOU'RE HERE

Thank you for worshiping with us. Please use the yellow communication sheet or this QR code to tell us you are here and to share prayer requests. If worshiping online, use [this link](#).



See www.cos-umc.org for more information about our ministries.